Appl. No. 10/509,045
Amdt. dated November 24, 2008
Reply to Office action of July 21, 2008

Docket No. 060414.000009

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) A method of checking properties of wares or services, the method comprising:

providing a first database in which the properties of wares or services are stored, the wares or services being identified by a unique product identification code;

providing a second database in which user profiles containing exclusion or desired criteria for the wares or services for each respective user are stored, wherein the exclusions are based on user selectable templates, that provide criteria to avoid allergies ;

a particular user selecting a ware or service and determining the product identification code therefor;

retrieving the properties of the wares or services on the basis of the determined product identification code, wherein the product identification code is a bar code which is read by a mobile device;

retrieving the exclusion or desired criteria for the particular user;

comparing the retrieved exclusion or desired criteria for the wares or services with the retrieved properties of wares or services; and

advising the particular user of the result of the comparison.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the exclusion and desired criteria and said

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properties are stored in a structured manner, and wherein properties and said exclusion and desired criteria are retrieved by carrying out a hierarchical search.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein a user profile containing said exclusion and desired criteria are stored in a mobile device and the comparison takes place in the mobile device upon receipt of the properties of the wares or services from a central server, or wherein said user profile is transmitted to said central or decentralized server and said comparison takes place in said central server.

20.   (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising inputting the properties of the wares or services and user profiles containing exclusion or desired criteria in a configuration step.

21.   (Canceled).

22.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the product identification code is configured as a unique link on the Internet which is adapted, when activated, to access the first database, wherein the particular user enables access to the exclusion or desired criteria, and wherein the comparison operation takes place on a central server.

23.   (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein access to the exclusion or desired criteria is enabled by a cookie stored on a device associated with the particular user.

24.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the product identification code is stored as unique information on the Internet, wherein a client computer reads the product identification code and retrieves the properties of the wares and services from the first database over the Internet, the client computer retrieves the exclusion or desired criteria from said second database, which is either at a central server or in a local database on the client computer, and effects said comparison.

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25.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said exclusion or desired criteria are associated in said second database with a unique identification code for each user, and said exclusion or desired criteria are retrieved from said second database on the basis of said unique user identification code.

26. – 39. (Canceled).